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USCINCSO FOR POLAD, Amembassies MANAGUA, SAN SALVADOR,
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FROM : Amembassy GUATEMALA

DATE: Jul 31, 68

SUBJECT : Weekly Internal Security Report: July 19-25, 1968

REF :

RECEIVED
DEPARTMENT OF
BUREAU OF
INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS
AUG 1 1968

1. There is nothing new of interest that was not covered in the Internal Security Section of the Biweekly Political Review pouched this date. Most of the bodies and kidnappings mentioned in that report were found or occurred during the past week. As the comment on that section says, it is too early to draw any conclusions about the increased violence. It does look as if the armed civilians in the northeast may be back on the war-path after a breathing spell following the government's new line of restraint that accompanied the March 28 command changes. With municipal elections coming up, there are indications that local leaders of the armed civilians may have decided to strengthen their hand by intimidating potential candidates.

2. NOTE: This will be the last in the series of Weekly Internal Security Reports. Internal Security matters will continue to be treated in the Biweekly Political Review. On "off" weeks between Biweekas, "internal security affairs will be summarized in an airgram.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY *EAG* DATE *2 OCT 1968*RDS ☐ or XDS ☐ EXT. DATE

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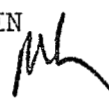
Guatemala A-156

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Minister of Government announced the police had broken the back of a well organized gang that had been operating in the Department of Escuintla. He said some 12 persons had been arrested, a number of other arrests were imminent, and 2 trucks and some two-way radio equipment used by the gang had been confiscated. Also a member of a similar gang was arrested in Fraijanes, the Department of Guatemala, and a small cache of contraband arms and ammunition was seized in the capital.

5. The only other activity was the discovery of 5 more assassination victims and a military policeman killed in a surprise attack on a platoon in La Maquina, Department of Escuintla.

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